

- 18 -

ABSTRACT

A support material comprises a raw paper that may be coated on at least one side with a synthetic resin, said raw paper or the resin coating on the raw paper is provided at least on the front side with a pigment layer wherein the pigment layer contains at least about 5 % by weight of a pigment with a narrow grain size distribution, whereby at least about 70 % of these pigment particles feature a size of less than some 1  $\mu\text{m}$  and at least 40 % by weight of these particles feature a grain size of 0.35 and 0.8  $\mu\text{m}$ , or in that the pigment coating is a structured calcium carbonate, for example surface-modified, and both embodiments feature improved surface properties.